

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of coordinating resources of mobile computing devices to jointly execute tasks, the method comprising:

5 receiving a first gesture input at a first mobile computing device;
receiving a second gesture input at a second mobile computing device;
determining whether the first and second gesture
10 inputs form one of a plurality of different synchronous gesture types; and
if it is determined that the first and second gesture inputs form the one of the plurality of different synchronous gesture types, then combining resources of the
15 first and second mobile computing devices to jointly execute a particular task associated with the one of the plurality of different synchronous gesture types.

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2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining whether the first and second gesture inputs form the one of the plurality of different synchronous gesture types further comprises determining whether the first
25 and second gesture inputs are synchronized in time.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein determining whether the first and second gesture inputs are synchronized in time further comprises determining whether the first and second gesture inputs are
5 within a predetermined time period of each other.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein determining whether the first and second gesture inputs form the one of the plurality of different synchronous gesture
10 types further comprises determining whether the first and second gesture inputs are of corresponding types.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein receiving the first gesture input further comprises receiving an
15 output of an accelerometer of the first mobile computing device, and wherein receiving the second gesture input further comprises receiving an output of an accelerometer of the second mobile computing device.

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6. The method of claim 5, wherein the outputs of the accelerometers of the first and second mobile computing devices are indicative of whether the first and second mobile computing devices have been bumped
25 against one another, thereby forming a bump type synchronous gesture.

7. The method of claim 6, and further comprising:
receiving a touch sensor output from the first
mobile computing device indicative of
whether the first mobile computing device
5 is being held during a potential bump type
synchronous gesture; and
wherein determining whether the first and second
gesture inputs form the bump type
synchronous gesture comprises determining
10 that the first and second gesture inputs
form the bump type synchronous gesture only
if the touch sensor output indicates that
the first mobile computing device is being
held.
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8. The method of claim 4, wherein receiving the
first gesture input further comprises receiving an
input which is indicative of proximity of a stylus to
a screen of the first mobile computing device, and
20 wherein receiving the second gesture input further
comprises receiving an input which is indicative of
proximity of a stylus to a screen on the second
mobile computing device.
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9. The method of claim 8, wherein proximity of the
stylus to one or both of the first and second mobile
computing devices includes contact of the stylus with
one or both of the first and second mobile computing
devices.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the first and second gesture inputs are indicative of whether a stitch type synchronous gesture has been formed.

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11. The method of claim 10, wherein the first and second gesture inputs are indicative of whether a scribble type synchronous gesture has been formed.

10 12. The method of claim 1, wherein combining resources of the first and second mobile computing devices to jointly execute the task associated with the one of the plurality of different synchronous gesture types further comprises combining resources
15 of the first and second mobile computing devices to share display real estate.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein combining resources of the first and second mobile computing
20 devices to share display real estate further comprises combining resources of the first and second mobile computing devices to jointly display the same image.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein combining
resources of the first and second mobile computing
devices to share display real estate further
comprises combining resources of the first and second
5 mobile computing devices to each display different
portions of a single image.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein combining
resources of the first and second mobile computing
10 devices to jointly execute the task associated with
the one of the plurality of different synchronous
gesture types further comprises combining resources
of the first and second mobile computing devices to
transfer data from the first mobile computing device
15 to the second mobile computing device.

16. A computer readable medium storing computer
executable instructions for implementing the steps of
claim 1.
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17. A system which coordinates resources of mobile computing devices to jointly execute tasks, the system comprising:

5 a first mobile computing device configured to
 receive a first gesture input;
 a second mobile computing device configured to
 receive a second gesture input;
 processing circuitry configured to determine
 whether the first and second gesture inputs
10 form one of a plurality of different
 synchronous gesture types; and
 wherein if it is determined that the first and
 second gesture inputs form the one of the
 plurality of different synchronous gesture
15 types, then the first and second mobile
 computing devices being further configured
 to combine resources to jointly execute a
 particular task associated with the one of
 the plurality of different synchronous
20 gesture types.

18. The system of claim 17, and further comprising a network communicatively coupling the first and second mobile computing devices.

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19. The system of claim 18, wherein the processing circuitry comprises processing circuitry of one or both of the first and second mobile computing devices.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein the processing circuitry comprises processing circuitry of the network.

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21. The system of claim 20, wherein the processing circuitry further comprises a proximity server.

22. The system of claim 17, wherein the processing
10 circuitry is configured to determine whether the first and second gesture inputs form the one of the plurality of different synchronous gesture types by determining whether the first and second gesture inputs are synchronized in time.

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23. The system of claim 22, wherein the processing circuitry is configured to determine whether the first and second gesture inputs are synchronized in time by determining whether the first and second
20 gesture inputs are within a predetermined time period of each other.

24. The system of claim 22, wherein the processing circuitry is configured to determine whether the
25 first and second gesture inputs form the one of the plurality of different synchronous gesture types by determining whether the first and second gesture inputs are of corresponding types.

25. The system of claim 24, and further comprising
an accelerometer coupled to the first mobile
computing device and an accelerometer coupled to the
second mobile computing device, wherein the first
5 gesture input is an output of the accelerometer
coupled to the first mobile computing device, and
wherein the second gesture input is an output of the
accelerometer coupled to the second mobile computing
device.

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26. The system of claim 25, wherein the outputs of
the accelerometers coupled to the first and second
mobile computing devices are indicative of whether
the first and second mobile computing devices have
15 been bumped against one another, thereby forming a
bump type synchronous gesture.

27. The system of claim 26, and further comprising:

a touch sensor coupled to the first mobile
computing device, the first mobile
computing device being further configured
5 to receive a touch sensor output indicative
of whether the first mobile computing
device is being held during a potential
bump type synchronous gesture; and

wherein the processing circuitry is further
10 configured to determine whether the first
and second gesture inputs form the bump
type synchronous gesture only if the touch
sensor output indicates that the first
mobile computing device is being held.

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28. The system of claim 24, wherein the first mobile
computing device is configured to receive the first
gesture input by receiving an input which is
indicative of proximity of a stylus to a screen of
20 the first mobile computing device, and wherein the
second mobile computing device is configured to
receive the second gesture input by receiving an
input which is indicative of proximity of a stylus to
a screen on the second mobile computing device.

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29. The system of claim 28, wherein proximity of the stylus to one or both of the first and second mobile computing devices includes contact of the stylus with one or both of the first and second mobile computing devices.

30. The system of claim 29, wherein the first and second gesture inputs are indicative of whether a stitch type synchronous gesture has been formed.

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31. The system of claim 30, wherein the first and second gesture inputs are indicative of whether a scribble type synchronous gesture has been formed.

15 32. The system of claim 17, wherein the first and second mobile computing devices are configured to combine resources by sharing display real estate.

20 33. The system of claim 32, wherein the first and second mobile computing devices are configured to share display real estate by jointly display the same image.

25 34. The system of claim 33, wherein the first and second mobile computing devices are configured to jointly display the same image by each displaying different portions of a single image.

35. The system of claim 17, wherein the first and
second mobile computing devices are configured to
combine resources to transfer data from the first
mobile computing device to the second mobile
5 computing device.